July 23, 2019

Judith Lewis MuckRock News DEPT MR 77357 411A Highland Ave. Somerville, MA 02144-2516

RE: Public Records Act Request No. 19-07-208

Dear Ms. Lewis:

This letter is in response to the above-referenced request you submitted to the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) on July 16, 2019 pursuant to the Public Records Act (PRA) (Govt. Code, § 6250 et seq.) seeking records related to oil spills in Kern County for which the Department has assessed harm to wildlife from 2009 to the present.

The Department is initiating a search for records responsive to your request and will make available for inspection or provide copies of all responsive records, if any, that are not privileged or exempt from disclosure pursuant to the PRA or other applicable law. The Department will seek to make such records available as soon as reasonably practicable. In the event the Department will be unable to make the records available within 90 days of your request, we will contact you to discuss the matter.

The PRA requires disclosure of existing records in the possession, custody, or control of a public agency. If the Department locates existing records responsive to your request, Department staff will assemble the disclosable records and contact you to make arrangements for inspection or delivery of the records. You may elect to receive copies of the records or to inspect them in person. If you choose to inspect the records, you must do so at the location(s) at which they are regularly maintained. If you choose to receive copies, documents maintained in electronic format will be transmitted electronically whenever possible. If the Department needs to deliver hard copies, you will be charged a copying fee of \$.15 per page. The Department will notify you of the total cost prior to mailing the records. Please note the Department cannot waive or reduce these fees and costs for any reason.

Please note that the Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) is primarily responsible for responding to oil spills. Because OSPR may have responsive records, the Department is forwarding your request to OSPR and the Department and OSPR will provide you a single coordinated response.

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If you have any questions or would like to know the status of your request, please email Stephen Puccini, Attorney IV, at <a href="mailto:stephen.puccini@wildlife.ca.gov">stephen.puccini@wildlife.ca.gov</a> and reference PRA No. 19-07-208.

Sincerely,

Kathy Hawkins

Department of Fish and Wildlife